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SOURCE Documents as indicated.

ORGANIZATION OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE USSR

The People's Commissariat of Foreign Trade USSR was established by decree of 12 November 1923. Two years later, however, a decree of the Central Executive Committee and the Council of People's Commissars USSR united the Commissariats of Foreign Trade and Internal Trade into the People's Commissariat of Foreign and Internal Trade (Narkomtorg). On 22 November 1930, a decree of the Council of People's Commissars USSR again divided the Commissariat of Foreign and Internal Trade into the two independent Commissariats of Supply and Foreign Trade. (1) The People's Commissariat of Foreign Trade was reconstituted as the Ministry of Foreign Trade by decree of 15 March 1946. (2)

Function of the Ministry

The foreign trade monopoly is a basic principle of the Soviet Constitution (Article 14). This principle is carried out by the Ministry of Foreign Trade USSR, which is a regulating and controlling body, while export and import monopoly associations, each dealing with specific ranges of goods or particular groups of countries, carry out the actual commercial operations. (3)

Organization of the Ministry

No complete breakdown on administrations and divisions of the ministry is available for the postwar period, but the structure of the People's Commissariat of Foreign Trade USSR was given as follows by a decree of 9 April 1939 (4):

Foreign Exchange Administration
Export Administration
Import Administration
Eastern Administration
Transport Administration
Main Customs Administration

- 1 -

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Division of Trade Agreements
Engineering Division
Personnel Division
Division of Trade Delegations
Financial Division
Central Bookkeeping
Judicial Division
Administrative Management Administration
First Division
Mobilization Division (Mobotdel)
Division for Granting Concessions
Office of Card-File Index of Firms
Technical Library
Archives
Control and Inspection Group
Secretariat
Experts
Translators (4)

The following organs of the Ministry of Foreign Trade USSR have been identified in the postwar period

Trade Agreement Administration
North European Administration
Eastern and Central European Administration
Eastern Administration
Main Customs Administration (6)
Export Administration (7)
Import Administration (7)
Economic Administration
Personnel Administration
Main Administration of Animal Raising and Rabbit State Farms (Glavzervod) (7)
Main Administration of Karakul State Farms (Glavkarakul') (7)
Foreign Exchange Administration (7)
Transportation Administration (7)
State Inspection (of the quality of exported commodities) (6)

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Aside from the above administrations, the Ministry has the following associations with branches in foreign countries which have the right to negotiate foreign trade agreements with foreign firms. (The chief function of each association is given in parentheses.)

Tekhnopromimport (import of technical and industrial machinery) (8)
Eksportlen (export of flax) (8)
Promsyr'yeimport (industrial raw material imports) (8)
Eksportles (export of lumber) (8)
Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga (export and import of books and publications) (9)
Raznoeksport (export of miscellaneous items) (9)
Soyuzpushnina (export of furs) (9)
Raznoimport (import of miscellaneous items) (10)
Soyuzpromeksport (export of technical and industrial machinery) (10)
Sovrakht (chartering of vessels) (11)
Soyuzvnesntrans (trade transportation) (8, 6)
Stankoimport (import of machine tools) (8)
Mashinoimport (import of machinery) (8)
Vostokintorg (Trade with Mongolian People's Republic, People's Republic of China, Iran, and Afghanistan) (12, 6)
Tekhnoeksport (export of machinery) (15)
Soyuznefteeksport (petroleum export) (14)

- 2 -

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Eksportkholeb (export of grain) (14)
Del'intorg (trade with Far Eastern countries) (15)
Transmashimport (transport machinery import) (16,6)
Soyuzkhimeksport (export and import of chemical and medical products) (16,6)

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6. Vneshnyaya Torgovlya, No 9, 1951
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50X1-HUM

- E N D -

- 3 -

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